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## COLOWAN UNDER FIRE.

### NAVAL BOMBARDMENT RE-COMMENCED.

"PATRIA" AND "MACAU" SHELL PIRATICAL STRONGHOLDS.

COMMODORE WU GUEST OF GOVERNOR OF MACAO.

Hongkong, 17th July, 11.30 a.m.

In his letter of yesterday morning, published in the *Hongkong Telegraph* last evening, our Macao correspondent reported that operations against the pirates at Colowan, which had been suspended under the flag of truce, hoisted by the Chinese on the island, would be re-commenced yesterday afternoon at one o'clock if by that hour the pirate chiefs and the revolted inhabitants of Colowan did not unconditionally surrender their arms and persons to the Portuguese. It was hoped that the truce granted would have given the pirates time to come to their senses and, in effect, yield to the inevitable fate which no amount of procrastination will succeed in warding off. The subjugation of the desperate characters infesting the groups of islands near Macao was as much in the interest of Portuguese administration as it was in that of the Chinese Provincial Government who, in duty bound, and by agreement with Admiral Sir Arthur Moore, as delegate of the British Government, was compelled to ensure the safety of Chinese and British trade, at sea and ashore, in the riverine districts of the Canton delta. It is, therefore, not surprising that the Chinese and Portuguese Governments should, for the nonce, overlook their little differences over the boundary question and

Co-operate in friendly intercourse in silencing the insular possessions adjacent to Macao of the human vultures who have far too long preyed upon the innocent lambs of Chinese merchants and traders by their wanton depredations which stop neither at kidnapping nor murder to satisfy the lust of their greed for ill-gotten gains. We have before already noted the effective maintenance of the naval cordon round about Taipa, Colowan and Wong Kam. The cordon has since been rendered even a closer one with the arrival of the Portuguese gunboat *Patricia* from Macao, the cruiser *Rainha Dona Amalia* from Hongkong last evening and the increase in the Chinese flotilla, originally of four vessels, to fourteen yesterday. Included among the fleet was observed—in the distant offing the towering hull of the old *Pechonias*, now Admiral Li Chun's training ship for the Whampoa naval cadets. To complete the long line of vessels closing every avenue through which escape might at all be possible, a large revenue cruiser lies at anchor half-way between Hongkong and Macao at the mouth of the delta.

#### Commodore Wu at Government House.

The Commander-in-Chief of this formidable little flotilla, in point of numbers, Commodore Wu, was the guest of His Excellency Senhor Marques at lunch at Government House, on Friday. There were also present at table the Staff Officers and members of the suite of the Portuguese Governor. We have authoritative information that the Chinese Naval Official expressed to His Excellency his deep sense of appreciation of the action of the Portuguese in adopting such effective measures to exterminate the pirate horde root and branch from Colowan. The assurance was given that the presence of the naval units of the Kwang-tung Squadron in the neighbourhood of Colowan was for no other purpose than to act in friendly co-operation for the maintenance of the cordon and to prevent the pirates from fleeing into Chinese territory where they will be regarded as the most unwelcome guests. The cordial expressions of good-will on the part of the Chinese representatives are mutually reciprocated at Macao.

#### Bombardment re-commenced to-day.

Macao's ultimatum to the Chinese pirate chiefs expired at 5 p.m. yesterday (Saturday). It was generally supposed that by that hour a withering fire would have been opened on the island from the batteries of the gunboats *Patricia* and *Macau*. But the authorities conducting operations were awaiting the arrival of the cruiser *Rainha Dona Amalia* of whose departure from Hongkong to Macao at noon yesterday they had been apprised by cable despatch. The *Dona Amalia* was signalled off the roadstead shortly before four o'clock in the afternoon.

She lay at anchor in the offing and awaited the flood tide before she picked up the outer channel and moved up to Colowan. This she did at eight o'clock last night. Eager eyes watched her port lights from the Praia Grande and when she dropped anchor in front of Colowan anticipations ran high of subsequent developments in the night.

#### Naval Contingent Disembarked.

The plan was that she was to land a naval contingent of 150 men last night to reinforce the troops on land which with the men from the gunboat *Patricia* is now of a total strength of some five hundred men.

Saturday night proved uneventful. By this morning the pirate chiefs had not complied with their signals for an honest truce and surrender. Accordingly, at 8 a.m. sharp the

#### Torrid Boom

of the heavy artillery of the *Patricia* was the first signal that a bombardment of Colowan had re-commenced with unmistakable determination. The lighter guns of the patrol-boat *Macau* followed in rapid succession and soon a continuous cannonade of shot and shell was directed against the pirates' inaccessible strongholds. The boom of the guns could be distinctly heard by the passengers on board the *Sul Tet* on her way from Macao to Hongkong this morning. For fully an hour those travelling by the Macao steamer to-day had the rare privilege of watching a miniature bombardment well out of the zone of operations and safely without the fear of the deadly fire. What the dreadful consequences of to-day's fearful onslaught it is yet too early for us to be able to report. Communication between Colowan and Macao being maintained as in a state of siege, private despatches take some time to arrive; but we expect to be fully posted by our well-informed correspondent to-morrow morning. Moreover, at the time of the despatch of the *Hongkong Telegraph's* representative's latest message from Macao, it was the plan to keep up the bombardment throughout the day unless, of course, capitulation is made in the course of the day. While firing is kept up there is no possibility of particulars being gathered by our energetic correspondent for transmission.

#### Pirates' strongholds located.

The location of the pirates' strongholds by the Portuguese scouts, no doubt, led to the determination for the pursuance of the drastic measures which called forth nothing less than the concerted action of the warships of Portugal in these waters. In certain quarters these shocking reprisals are deprecated which, unfortunately, cannot discriminate between the innocent and the guilty, and women and children from the bloodthirsty cutthroats—the human pariahs—who thrive and have their being on the ill-gotten gains of peaceful villages and honest traders. By others, again, it is thought that no measures can be severe or repressive enough to put down once for all the state of lawlessness on the very borders of our civilisation. Here we have the disciples of two schools diametrically opposed in sentiments and opinions, each having equally good and sound arguments in support of their contentions.

#### Portuguese sergeant dead.

Sad to relate, Sergeant Pirico, who had gone to the "front," was found dead on the island of Colowan yesterday. Our representative was unable to ascertain the cause of death. It has not yet transpired whether the sergeant was killed by an enemy's bullet or died from natural causes. The fact, nevertheless, remains that his corpse has been brought over to Macao and will be buried in due course with full military honours. Deceased left a widow and one child at Macao to mourn his untimely end, and with whom the greatest sympathy is felt.

#### More Troops for Colowan.

The tow-boat, which was purchased at Shanghai, for harbour work at Macao, is rendering signal service to the Military Transport and Commissariat Departments. She has kept up regular and rapid communication between the Settlement and its insular dependency ever since the commencement of hostilities. Yesterday, at 6.30 p.m., the tow-boat left the Naval Pier in the Inner Harbour with commissariat and a further detachment of 25 men from the local Garrison for Colowan.

#### Officer's Leave Suspended.

Officers having families at Macao have had their leave suspended, and all, without exception, have to take up their quarters in the barracks ready for any emergency. Although in the City itself no unwelcome fuss or excitement is apparent over Macao's "little war" there is no denying the truth that in military circles the Colony has never been so much aroused since the days of the storming and capture of Passaleiro.

#### The gunboat "Macao."

Those of our readers who have followed the narrative of the Colowan campaign, since its inception, will have noted the point made by our representative on the spot of the remarkable accuracy of the shooting on the part of the Chinese. Further evidence, if any were needed, has been forthcoming to-day, proving the correctness of our correspondent's report in an authoritative statement which he was able to obtain yesterday that plates of the gunboat *Macau* have been pierced by bullets in several places. It was little short of miraculous that the fusillade directed by the Chinese against the little gun-vessel did not account for any casualty on the naval side.

#### Prizes of War.

The exact number of the captured prisoners by the Portuguese has not yet been definitely ascertained, but a rough estimate places the number of known prisoners now in Macao at about seventy. Besides arms and ammunitions the Portuguese troops have come in for three valuable prizes of war in the shape of three Chinese junks which were brought into the Inner Harbour from Colowan on Friday in tow of the Shanghai tow-boat. These junks were the galleys of the pirate horde. Large numbers of men had got on board at Colowan and were in the act of shoving off when they were discovered by the Portuguese troops. Foiled in their attempt to escape, the natives jumped off the decks ashore again and ran for their lives in all directions to shelter. Abandoned, the three boats were captured by the Portuguese as prizes of war and towed across the bay to Macao.

#### News gathering.

The Naval Jutty and all along the beach is full of people anxious to get every scrap of first news which they promptly retail in the City. The arrival of every launch, or any despatch vessel, from Colowan, is the signal for a rush to the Naval Camber. But as the officials even down to the subordinates are under palp of penalty to observe judicious reticence the purveyors of news, specially of the raw novice type, is invariably doomed to disappointment.

#### Pirates identified.

The eighteen men, who were brought manacled to Macao, on Friday, having been made prisoners at Colowan, and who are in safe custody in the military prison of Monte Fort have since been identified by at least two of their former captives. A Chinese boy, who had been held to ransom, and was since rescued by his deliverers, the Portuguese, was taken to Monte and there without any hesitation pointed out his erstwhile tormentors. The prisoners stoutly denied the charges alleged against them before the lad when the little youngster, emboldened by the presence of the armed escort, called out aloud: "Hail-le, hai, Hai chah!" meaning while keeping his index finger in front of the quivering countenance of the contemptible wretch now held in durance vile. The lad's ejaculatory exclamation was: "Yes, that is the man. He is the robber!"

Others of the gang were identified by an old, old man, who had been held in captivity pending the payment of a large sum of money which had been demanded as the price of his life by the brigands from his well-to-do son who is said to be in business at Macao.

#### Story of the Kidnapping.

The youthful witness just mentioned tells a graphic story of how he was kidnapped. One day he was at the Macao wharf of the ferry to Taipa and Colowan. He was inquiring for the launch to take him to his native place when he was accosted by a man who declared himself to be a friend willing to help take him to his village home. The boy was accordingly persuaded to follow the stranger to the Colowan launch. Arriving at the destination the unsuspecting youth declined to disembark, declaring that that was not the landing place of his ancestral village. Whereupon his would-be guide and friend unmasked his villainy and told the now frightened boy that if he refused to follow him he would be done to death then and there. The same fate would befall him even if he attempted to raise an alarm. Of the two evils the boy, who by this time was terrorised beyond words, meekly obeyed the relentless injunction of his tyrant.

He was taken to a Chinese house in a village at Colowan and there at once ordered into the kitchen where he was to turn a useful hand in the scullery department of his unwilling captivity. In servile bondage thus the boy remained and became the victim of the worst tortures as it suited the whimsical wrath of his master. When the boy demurred in any loathsome task to which he had been ordered, he was forcibly held and bound by the arms and hoisted to the ceiling and there hung until he pleased the savage inhumanity of his captor to release him. This and other sufferings the boy had had to undergo when the dreadful sound of infantry fire of Tuesday last announced to him amidst a scene of gory revelry his joyous deliverance from a bondage that was more terrible than death.

#### Cruiser recalled.

The cruiser *Vasco da Gama*, which left Hongkong not long ago, on a cruise in Japan waters and subsequently proceeded to Daloy and Port Arthur, has been recalled to Macao by telegram. She is expected to arrive any time.

The *San Gabriel*, which is on a cruise round the world, is also expected here shortly and will at once proceed to join the Portuguese Squadron at Colowan. So that the fighting units of the Portuguese will be represented by:—

*Vasco da Gama* (flagship),  
*San Gabriel*,  
*Rainha Dona Amalia*,  
*Patricia*, and  
*Macau*.

#### Military Demonstration at Wong Kam.

[From an Occasional Correspondent.]

Macao, 16th July, 8 p.m.

The presence of the Chinese flotilla in Portuguese waters and the demonstration of the military force at Wong Kam are susceptible of misinterpretations. The reasons I assign for both are:—

- 1.—To surround and capture any pirates if, by any chance, they manage to elude the naval cordon.
- 2.—To prevent the escape of the pirates to Chinese territory in Wong Kam upon their pursuit by our forces.
- 3.—To demonstrate China's preparedness to place an effective force upon a war footing at any given moment whether on land or at sea.

The Commander of the Chinese naval forces had tiffin with His Excellency the Governor yesterday. He confers with the Portuguese authorities in almost all matters concerning the blockade of Colowan and has rendered great services in establishing the cordon by sea with his fourteen war vessels, launches included, so as to prevent the escape of any junk from Colowan.

To-day was to have been the day for a renewal of hostilities against the pirates, but going, eventuated. Yesterday was a day of rest for the Portuguese troops who badly needed it. Fifteen prisoners were landed at Macao yesterday; they have been identified by the rescued children.

The correspondent of a Hongkong newspaper applied for permission to the Governor to proceed to Colowan to gather information for his paper. The permission was refused.

#### CHINAMAN BOILED ALIVE.

A Chinese fireman on board the *Lord Cromer* was severely burned by the bursting of a steam pipe while the ship was on the high seas and he was almost boiled. He was landed on June 28 in Colombo in a precarious condition and despatched to the General Hospital, where he died of septic poisoning from burns. An inquest was held, and a verdict of accident was returned.

S. DAOU, a Washington astrologer who two years ago foretold the death of King Edward and described the circumstances accurately, professes to foresee that King George's horoscope is that his reign will be among the shortest in England's history, and will last but six and a half years.

The *Java Dots* gives particulars of joint operations by Dutch and American cruisers against pirates on an inlet in the Southern Philippines. The pirates had fled thither after committing robbery and murder in the Celebes. Five of them were caught, and the stolen property was recovered. The fact is brought out that the American authorities did their best to hunt the pirates down.

#### Events Coming.

Tuesday, 19th July.  
Sanitary Board meeting, 3.45 p.m.  
Thursday, 21st July.  
Legislative Council meeting, 9.30 p.m.

#### ROBBERS' ESTATE RETURNS.

	May	June	Total
Allagar	3,500	3,500	7,000
Alor Pongu	1,870	—	1,870
Alma	—	700	700
Anglo Malay	47,953	49,782	97,735
Ayer Kuning	—	—	833
Ayer Melak	1,882	—	1,882
Ayer Panas	—	500	500
Balgownie	9,778	9,473	19,251
Banteng	1,716	1,048	2,764
Batu Caves	12,256	13,034	25,290
Batu Tiga	6,622	—	6,622
Bertam	9,750	—	9,750
Beveridge	8,943	—	8,943
Bikam	785	1,366	2,151
Bukit Kajang	3,824	4,393	8,217
Bukit Rajah	30,700	—	30,700
Bukit Lintang	3,320	3,800	7,120
Bukit Timah	213	779	992
Carey United	12,000	11,800	23,800
Castlefield	3,030	—	3,030
Changkat Sordang	3,003	3,320	6,323
Changkat Salak	901	950	1,851
Cicely	12,040	—	12,040
Consolidated Malay	20,943	—	20,943
Caledonia	17,687	21,000	38,687
Damanara	27,863	27,911	55,774
Edinburgh	6,400	—	6,400
Federated (S'gor)	10,627	—	10,627
F.M.S. Rubber	31,870	—	31,870
Gedong	13,500	14,600	28,100
Geleasy	1,621	1,853	3,474
Glenahiel	3,720	3,887	7,607
Golden Hope	5,777	2,956	8,733
Goldcoast	12,796	—	12,796
Harpenden	6,800	—	6,800
Heaswood	907	928	1,835
High & Lowlands	38,448	37,471	75,919
Inch Kenneth	14,428	13,331	27,759
Jitra	9,671	—	9,671
Johong	18,500	—	18,500
Kapar Lang	—	—	36,985
Kamuning	7,171	7,053	14,224
Kampsey	—	—	9,195
Kepong	2,750	—	2,750
Kota Tinggi	—	—	1,840
Kuala Klang	2,012	—	2,012
Krian Rubi Est.	2,870	—	2,870
Kuala Lumpur	38,500	45,200	83,700
Labu	17,185	19,334	36,519
Landanor	37,478	37,793	75,271
Ledbury	9,669	9,544	19,213
Linggi	64,500	63,000	127,500
London Atlantic	12,650	12,320	24,970
Malacca Plant	21,000	—	21,000
Merton	1,761	1,912	3,673
North Hummock	5,189	—	5,189
Nova Scotia	8,480	10,100	18,580
Pajam	2,400	3,000	5,400
Patalay	27,057	27,448	54,505
Pegoh	3,361	3,570	6,931
Perak Plant	10,350	—	10,350
Port Dickson	630	—	630
Radella	—	1,017	1,017
Rambai	671	—	671
Ribu Rubber	5,613	4,094	9,707
Rubane	10,000	12,500	22,500
Rubani	1,490	—	1,490
Ruber Growers Assn.	2,404	3,081	5,485
Sengat	6,005	7,000	13,005
Selaba	5,786	5,586	11,372
Sungel Choh	3,930	4,620	8,550
Sungel Kapar	16,500	—	16,500
Sandycroft	5,395	6,782	12,177
Seaford	4,574	—	4,574
Selangor	32,270	—	32,270
Seremban	31,516	34,081	65,597
Senawang	6,020	5,772	11,792
Shelford	6,700	—	6,700
Spore & Johore	10,056	11,875	21,931
Singapore Para	4,950	4,000	8,950
Straits Rubber	31,980	24,700	56,680
Sungel Salak	2,103	2,022	4,125
Telok Anson	—	—	620
Tail Ayer	12,300	13,100	25,400
Trufagar	—	—	220
Troop	—	—	2,160
United Singapore	1,420	1,610	3,030
United Sumatra	—	—	4,510
Vallambrosa	59,000	33,500	92,500

[All totals are calculated for the calendar year instead of the financial year, which differs with many companies. Managers of Estates, returns for which in above list are incomplete, will help to make the list more useful if they will kindly fill in the gaps.—Singapore Free Press.]

#### SHIPPING AND MAILS.

MAILS DUE.
American ( <i>Nippon Maru</i> ) 19th inst.
English ( <i>Amoy</i> ) 21st inst., 6 a.m.
Indian ( <i>Latang</i> ) 29th inst.
American ( <i>Siberia</i> ) 29th inst.
American ( <i>Siberia</i> ) 29th inst.
American ( <i>China</i> ) 3rd prox.
American ( <i>Manchuria</i> ) 8th prox.
The <i>s.s. Zeffre</i> left Manila on 16th inst., and is due here on 18th inst., at 3 p.m.
The <i>T. K. K. s.s. Nippon Maru</i> is due to arrive at Hongkong on 19th inst., at 6 a.m.
The Imperial German Mail <i>s.s. Kiehl</i> , which left here on 15th inst., at 3 p.m., arrived at Shanghai on 15th inst., at 10 p.m.
The <i>E. &amp; A. s.s. Empire</i> left Thursday Island on 14th inst., for Timor, Manila and this port; she is due at Manila on 23rd inst.
The <i>P. M. S. S. Co's s.s. Siberia</i> sailed from Yokohama on 15th inst., en route to Hongkong, and is due to arrive at this port on 29th inst.
The <i>P. &amp; A. S. S. Co's s.s. Hercules</i> sailed from Portland on 14th inst., en route to Hongkong, and is due to arrive at this port on 16th prox.
The <i>P. &amp; A. S. S. Co's s.s. Harbin</i> sailed from Portland on 15th inst., and is due here on 16th prox.

#### Shipping.

##### VESSELS IN PORT.

##### STRAMERS.

Anhui Br. s.s., 1,800, J. B. Harris, 16th July—Canton 14th July Gen.—B. & S.
Chihli Br. s.s., 1,143, Lindbergh, 14th July—Haiphong 14th July Gen.—B. & S.
Chongking Br. s.s., 1,211, Druhan, 14th July—Bangkok 21st June and Hallow 21st July Gen.—B. & S.
Borneo Br. s.s., 1,344, F. Sembill, 14th July—Sandakan 9th July Timber and Gen.—M. & Co.
Daig Maru, Jap. s.s., 864, H. Morayama, 14th July—Swatow 13th July Gen.—O. S. K.
Fansang Br. s.s., 1,410, H. Malkin, 14th July—Saligon 8th July Rice.—J. M. & Co.
Glenfalloch Br. s.s., 1,434, J. Manoo, 16th July—Singapore 10th July Coal and Log.—T. M. & Co.
Glenfalloch Br. s.s., 2,350, W. L. Harwood, 16th July—Manzanillo (Mexico) 11th June—Baltimore, S. T. & Co.
Haoli Br. s.s., 550, J. Camier, 16th July—Haiphong, Pakhoi and Hallow 9th July Gen. and Mail.—A. R. Marty.
Hinsang Br. s.s., 1,536, Smith, 16th July—Java and Juana 5th July Sugar.—J. M. & Co.
Holstein Br. s.s., 1,113, D. Hark, 15th July—Tourane via Hallow 14th July Coal and Gen.—J. & Co.
Hue Br. s.s., 742, Fauter, 8th May—Haiphong 5th May Gen.—M. & Co.
Hunan Br. s.s., 1,141, Benson, 5th July—Hongkong 3rd July Coal.—B. & S.
Iqbal, Dan. s.s., 3,612, Berg, 15th July—Port Said and Juss Gen.—M. & Co.
Inaba Maru, Jap. s.s., 3,837, K. Kawara, 11th July—Seattle via Ports 7th July Gen.—N. Y. K.
Japan Br. s.s., 3,866, A. Stewart, 14th June—Mol 9th July Gen.—D. S. & Co.
Kamchow Br. s.s., 1,449, J. D. Martin, 3rd July—Saligon 29th June Rice and Gen.—Man Fat & Co.
Kwang Sang Br. s.s., 1,448, Richard, 16th July—Canton 15th July Gen.—J. M. & Co.
Lennon Br. s.s., 2,661, D. Reid, 15th July—Liverpool 4th June Gen.—D. & Co.
Locksaw, Ger. s.s., 1,030, W. Taubert, 14th July—Bangkok 6th July and Swatow 13th July Rice and Wood.—B. & S.
Manang Br. s.s., 1,614, Weigall, 10th July—Sandakan 7th July Gen.—M. & Co.
Merrill, Dutch s.s., 1,597, E. Uddall, 12th July—Samarang 4th July Sugar.—Kia Tye Loong.
Omura Maru, Jap. s.s., 1,780, Yamaguchi, 16th July—Port Arthur 10th July Coal.—M. B. K.
Pompey, Am. s.s., 1,600, James D. Lineit, 16th July—Cavite 12th July Coal.—American Government.
Shantung Br. s.s., 1,000, H. Oldmann, 16th July—Hallow 15th July Gen. Rice.—B. & S.
Sungking Br. s.s., 915, Hards, 15th July—Hallow and Cebu 15th July Hemp and Gen.—B. & S.
Tean Br. s.s., 1,346, A. W. Outbridge, 15th July—Manila 14th July Gen.—B. & S.
Tingsoy Br. s.s., 1,210, Anderson, 16th July—Singapore 10th July Coal and Timber.—J. M. & Co.
Vesuvia Br. s.s., 2,333, H. B. Pardon, 11th July—Mol and Juss Gen.—M. B. K.
Yingchow Br. s.s., 1,210, W. Fraser, 15th July—Sibeth, 9th June Coal.—B. & S.
Wing Sang Br. s.s., 1,435, P. Martin, 1st July—Saligon 26th June Rice.—J. M. & Co.
Wuhu Br. s.s., 1,227, A. Tucker, 9th July—Saligon 5th July Rice.—B. & S.

##### SAILING VESSELS.

Arrow, Br. 4-masted barque, 2,971, Melvor, 20th May—Anjer 8th April, Oil.—Standard Oil & Co.

##### Post Office.

Only fully prepaid letters and postcards are transmissible by the Siberian Route to Europe.

S.S. *Tonkin*, with the Siberian mail, may be expected on Monday, the 18th inst.

##### A Mail will close for:—

Cebu and Iloilo—Per *Sungking*, 18th July 3 p.m.  
Batavia, Samarang and Sourabaya—Per *Hallow*, 18th July 3 p.m.  
Shanghai—Per *Kwang Sang*, 18th July 3 p.m.  
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow—Per *Hallow*, 19th July 9 a.m.  
Singapore, Penang and Calcutta—Per *Japan*, 19th July 10